

allied in its species to Eastern Asia, a fact brought out not only by a similarity in common species or large genera, but in very many cases by peculiar species and genera represented by two species only, one in Eastern America, the other in Eastern Asia. In Western America there is no such resemblance, making a greater difference between the floras of the eastern and western parts of the United States than between Eastern America and Eastern Asia. In the west there is a large commingling of Mexican or Southern species that have crept northward, guided by the mountain ranges. Hence the conclusion is arrived at that the similarity between the species of Eastern America and Eastern Asia is explained by the continuity of the continents to the north in the Cretaceous or Miocene and a consequent commingling of species, and that the Glacial period drove these species southward along the two continents farther even than they appear now. With the retreat of the glacier and the return of a milder climate these plants would creep northward again, but the enormous height of the Rocky Mountain and Sierra Nevada regions would retain the glaciers there long after they had disappeared from the eastern half of the continent. When eventually these alpine glaciers did succumb to a milder climate, the old Asiatico-American species having either established themselves elsewhere or been driven into the sea towards the south, the field would be clear for the advance of the Mexican forms and we find them even up in British America. Hence to state it all in one sentence, our Eastern flora has come from the North and our Western flora from the South.—J. M. C.

CAUCALIS ANTHERISCUS.—I have found thoroughly naturalized in the woods back of Cincinnati and remote from dwellings, *Caucalis Antheriscus*. The name was kindly furnished by J. W. Congdon. Prof. Watson, to whom I sent a specimen, informs me that the plant was found in 1872 by Judge G. W. Clinton, near Buffalo, N. Y. It is firmly established in this locality and promises, I think, to become a troublesome weed.—C. G. LLOYD.

NOTE ON PANICUM LITTORALE, VASEY, BY GEN. WM. MUNRO.—*Panicum littorale*, Vasey, is undoubtedly *P. repens*, L.,—one specimen the dwarfish form which he described in the second edition of Sp. Plant. p. 87. It is absolutely identical with specimens which I have before me in DeCandolle's herbarium from Crete and Gibraltar, where I have also collected it myself. It is also *P. arenarium*, Brotero.

There has always been considerable confusion about *P. repens*, L. The *P. repens* of Burman, Fl. Ind., p. 26, tab. 11, fig. 1 (1768), where

he quotes Linnæus, is quite different and, from the figure, is probably *P. prostratum*. At any rate it belongs to quite a different section of *Panicum* from true *P. repens*, L. However, many seem to have thought that this was the true *P. repens*, and therefore founded a new species under the name of *P. arenarium*. True *P. repens* can always be distinguished by the numerous nerves on the upper glumes and on the lower palea of the male flowers.

The specimen sent by Dr. Gray has quite glabrous vaginæ, whereas those received from Dr. Vasey have almost hirsute vaginæ.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.—*American Naturalist*, March.—Besides Sir Joseph Hooker's lecture, referred to above, Mr. Fred. Brendel writes a spicy article "On Nomenclature," much of which is true and some of which is impracticable, however desirable it might be. Mr. Geo. E. Davenport, in advance of the publication of his Catalogue of N. Am. Ferns, gives his reasons for retaining Tuckerman's name *Aspidium Boottii* in place of *A. remotum* of Braun.

*Journal of Botany*, British and Foreign.—Sketch of the life of Elias Fries with portrait. He was born in the south of Sweden, Aug. 15, 1794, and died Feb. 8, 1878. Report on a collection of Ferns from Borneo, with description of new species by J. G. Baker. Notes on some points in Botanical nomenclature by Mr. Bentham. On the Vegetable remains in the Egyptian museum at Berlin, by Alexander Braun, edited from the author's manuscripts.

*Catalogue of Plants collected by Dr. Coues in Dakota and Montana by Prof. J. W. Chickering*.—This catalogue contains 692 species, of which about 390 are found in New York or New England, about 80 are distinctively Western in their habitat, and about 215 belong on the plains and the Rocky Mountain region.

*Ferns of North America*, by Prof. D. C. Eaton. Parts 12 and 13.—In looking over the plates of this number it seems to us that they are the finest that have yet been given to us. There is a freshness and distinctness about them that leaves little to be desired. The species figured and described are *Aspidium acrostichoides*, Swz., *Pteris aquilina*, L., *Asplenium Trimanens*, L., *A. viride*, Hudson, *A. parvulum*, M. & G., *Adiantum Capillus-Veneris*, L., *A. emarginatum*, Hook., *Vittaria lineata*, Swz., *Notholana sinuata*, Kaulf., *N. ferruginea*, Desv., and *N. Newberryi*, Eaton.

*Bulletin of Torrey Botanical Club*, December.—Dr. Gray has two notes, one upon the confusion of the names *Dichlytra*, *Dichlytra* and *Dicentra*, the other upon a sporting *Trillium grandiflorum*.